

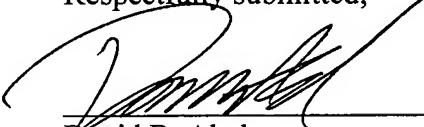
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

With this Response the Amendment to the Claims section is submitted including claims 13 and 14 which have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicant believes that with the foregoing amendments all of the claims are presently in condition for allowance and an early indication thereof is respectfully requested. If in the opinion of the Examiner after review of the foregoing there may be issues to resolve or minor corrections to make the application allowable, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned counsel in order to expedite the prosecution to issuance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1853 during the pendency of prosecution of this application. Should such additional fees be associated with an extension of time, applicant respectfully requests that this paper be considered a petition therefor. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for the Deposit Account, should it be needed.

Dated: December 16, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David B. Abel  
Registration No. 32,394  
Attorney for Applicant

**Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.**  
801 South Figueroa St., 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90017  
Telephone: (213) 624-2500  
Facsimile: (213) 623-4581  
Los Angeles/134172.1